

Liberalisation of New Industrial policy

4479. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have held discussions with various trade union leaders in the country on the question of effects of liberalisation of new industrial policy;

(b) whether the Government have ascertained the details and concrete effects of the changed policy on existing industry under public sector on the question of employment generation programme of the Government; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF.P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). Union Finance Minister had a meeting with Trade Union leaders on 17-8-1991 in which the new Industrial Policy was discussed. The Government in Ministry of Labour has recently constituted a special Tripartite Committee consisting of representatives of Central Trade Union Organisations, employers' organisation and Central Government Departments to consider the impact of the new industrial policy on the problems affecting labour and other related matters and to make appropriate recommendations.

[*Translation*]

New Sugar Mills

4480. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received by the Government for setting up new sugar mills and for the expansion of the mills, separately;

(b) the time by which these applications are likely to be approved as per the new guidelines laid down in this regard; and

(c) the number of applications from Gujarat for setting up new sugar mills and for expansion pending with the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) As on 30.9.1991, 642 applications have been received by the Ministry of FOOD for setting up of new sugar factories and 53 applications for expansion of capacity in the existing sugar factories.

(b) The Screening Committee will be holding its meetings from time to time to scrutinise the pending applications.

(c) As on 30.9.1991, 10 applications were pending for grant of Industrial Licences for setting up of new sugar mills and 2 for expansion in the existing sugar factories in the state of Gujarat.

[*English*]

Shortage of Pesticides

4481 SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been shortage of pesticides in the country for a long time;

(b) of so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the steps taken to meet the shortage

by raising the indigenous production;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up some more petrochemical industries in the country in the rural areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the sites selected therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c). The Government are continuously monitoring production and availability of pesticides and taking steps like additional licensing, better availability of raw materials, etc. for enhanced production of pesticides. In order to ensure timely and adequate supplies of pesticides, Department of Agriculture & Corporation convenes meetings with States/ Union Territories. In the event of short supplies of any pesticides, concerned manufacturers are advised to ensure supplies of these items to the concerned State to overcome the problem.

(d) and (e). Setting up of petro-chemical units in the country is an on-going process and proposals are recommended based on techno-economic considerations. Under the new industrial licensing policy, a large number of petro-chemicals items are now exempt from licensing provisions. In such cases entrepreneurs need only to file a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government.

Petro-Chemical Industries in Maharashtra

4482. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals to set-up petrochemicals industries in public and private sectors at various places in Maharashtra are lying pending at various stages with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the stages at which these proposals are lying pending; and

(d) the measures being adopted for according speedy approval to these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d). Applications for industrial licence for the manufacture of various petro-chemicals which still require licensing, including those of projects proposed to be located in Maharashtra, are received from time to time. These are examined and decided upon on techno-economic considerations, in line with existing policies, as a continuous process.

[Translation]

Increase in the Price of Arhar

4483. SHRI VILASRAO NAGANTHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the continuous increase in the price of Arhar; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for reducing the prices thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) (a) and (b). The increase in prices of Arhar is mainly due to the fact that domestic production has not kept pace with the domestic demand. Necessary measures have been taken to increase production of pulses in the country. Their availability is also being augmented by imports, pulses being on Open General Licence.